

Meeting held on Sunday, December 14, 2008 in room AR100 of Allen Riddle Hall at Newton-Wellesley Hospital. Convened at 5:00 PM. Serenity Prayer, followed by twelve steps and twelve traditions. Brief check-in. In attendance: Eric G (chair), Kim B (spiritual reminder), Bruce R (timekeeper), David B, Lisa P, Curtis B

Department Reports

- Recording Secretary (David B) – Add Internet numbers from October to Nov minutes. Add “Room Reservation”, “Encourage electronic monthly mail”, “Literature Sales”, “Outreach postcard”, “2009 ABM delegate” to tabled items. **Motion to accept as amended (Kim/Lisa): passes 4-0-0.**
- Treasurer (Eric G – open) – No overdrafts. Bank balance as of Dec 11 is \$1333.50. We received 7th tradition contributions after the newsletter article. People cashed checks that were held. We have to pay for the VT weekend soon. We have not made contributions to FWS this fiscal year. Want to get our own finances in order first. Delegate fund is at \$0. VT Scholarship fund is at - \$96.50. Literature Sales are less than expected. Fall Gathering brought in less than expected. **Motion to accept treasurer’s report (Kim/David): 5-0-0.**
- Outgoing Mail (Kim B) – 101 pieces were mailed in November. \$38.26 for printing and postage.
- Phone coordinator (Richie) – Not present. This position is open. Phone coordinator is stepping down at the end of this month. 136 total calls for the month: 18 calls regarding information. 16 calls for meeting lists (all mailed complete). Need phone volunteers to cover two days. One volunteer cut back from two days to one, and another resigned. We have two reliable people checking calls regularly. Mention that we need phone volunteers at meetings.
- Internet Coordinator (Lisa P) – 6 e-mail messages total. 2 with meeting location updates, 2 meeting list requests, 1 address list update, 1 Vermont scholarship inquiry. Fewer inquiries this month. The backup coordinator can help again. Will get literature form and downloadable pamphlets on the website soon.
- Mailing List (Jenny RW) – Not present. Updates have been forwarded to mailing list coordinator. Make sure the outgoing mail person gets mailing list updates, too.
- Meeting List (Bruce R) – Three new groups will be on the list in January: Medford, East Brookfield, Cape Cod. The October list only had the preamble, not the 12 Steps. Does printing the 12 Steps without the AA 12 steps violate the copyright? This issue came up a few years ago. David B will look up the old minutes to see what the decision was re: Preamble or 12 Steps on the meeting list.
- Vermont Coordinator (Jenny, open) – 15 people registered for December VT weekend. This is enough people to have the weekend. We need the VT scholarship fund replenished.
- Newsletter (Rich N) – Report sent via e-mail. Need two people to edit draft. David will review. Eric will send David a copy of the 2009 VT flyer, so dates can go into the newsletter. We can use newsletter to respond to comments about the financial letter after the group visits. Need a lead article. Perhaps include something about NEI elections in January. Can include activity information in newsletter. Include information on Fall Gathering survey results.
- Activities Committee (Jenny RW, Lisa P, David B, Kim B) – Committee met in November and planned events through August 2009. Movie in January. Valentine’s Day event in February. Nothing in March. April is Spring Gathering. Hike in May. Canoeing in June. David will make a flyer for the movie in January. Tim C resigned from committee.
- Literature (Ed W) – Sold \$127.50 in December. We have \$1371.75 in literature assets.

- Outreach (Tim C) – Report sent via e-mail: Has begun compiling a list of addresses for sending a post card to detailing SLAA's message and NEI's contact info. He would also like to schedule a meeting with the other outreach committee members to discuss further ideas for outreach. Examples of the two postcards are passed around room.
- ABM Delegate (Eric G) – Received report on FWS office. They will be closed Dec 23 – Jan 4. Flyer for candidates for the BoT, and timeline for the ABM. Are we sending a delegate this year? Deadline for early sign-up is January 14. Budget for ABM is \$1650. Held in July in Florida. Eric has done two years, but he won't go this year. Letter from intergroup call squad. All are encouraged to take it to their meetings.

Old Business

- How-to manual – a.k.a. operations manual. Kudos to people who sent write-ups on doing their jobs. We have info on the meeting list and the outgoing mail. Do we have instructions on how to be phone coordinator? Need info on treasurer, chair, vice-chair, recording secretary.
- Open positions – Phone coordinator. Kim will do it in interim, but cannot do it permanently. Ask the callback volunteers. VT coordinator (need two).
- State of the N.E.I. Treasury – Contributions are up. They helped a lot and brought us in line with budget to date. Cash is still low.
- Group Visits – Everyone should talk to the chair so we can coordinate group visits from NEI. Talking points have been distributed along with treasury letter. Bring along copies of 60/40 Pamphlet to group visits. Treasurers will look at old data. Should we include survey asking people what NEI can do for them? Surveys take a lot of work. Leave the e-mail address and US mail address and the open letter and invite them to send feedback and a group representative.

New Business

- Fall Gathering Results – Report summarizing the survey results is great. People found the one room noisy. No one disliked not having the NEI meeting at the conference.
- NEI 12&12 Contact – Can we find someone from NEI to serve as a contact for the 12&12 Book project? Ask at our meetings.
- Room reservation – We have a schedule for 2009. **Motion to reserve room for 11 dates in 2009 (David/Lisa): passes 5-0-0.**
- Outreach Postcard – **Motion to use the non-preamble postcard developed by Tim C. (Kim/David).** Discussion: are we creating a piece of junk mail? Is a letter with a business card more cost-effective? **Motion passes 5-0-0.**
- Election of 2009 ABM Delegates – **Motion to nominate David B (Kim/Bruce). David accepts. Passes 5-0-0.**

Tabled Items

- VT Weekend Policies
- Reducing mailing costs
- Literature Sales
- 12 Steps vs. Preamble in Meeting List

Next NEI Meeting – Sunday, January 11, 2009 at 5:00 PM. Respectfully submitted, David B.